Neuroscientist claims Donald Trump has health condition that presents 'horrific danger'

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Matt Davies April 2, 2026

As rumours about Donald Trump's health continue to swirl, a cognitive neuroscientist claims he doesn't have Alzheimer's at all - but a more dangerous condition

Dr Frank George also claimed the US President has a "personality disorder" (Image: AFP via Getty Images)

A neuroscientist has raised concerns that Donald Trump may be dealing with a degenerative brain condition presenting a "horrific danger" – though it's not Alzheimer's. Dr Frank George, a psychologist and cognitive neuroscientist, also claimed the US President has a "personality disorder" that would typically be "diminished" if Alzheimer's were present.

In recent months, speculation surrounding Trump's health has persisted, with observers highlighting bruises on his hand, swollen ankles, meandering speeches and instances of apparent drowsiness during public appearances. Another claim suggests Trump may be experiencing cognitive decline, a notion partially driven by his niece and vocal critic, Mary Trump. It comes Trump targeted Bruce Springsteen on Truth Social following the singer's criticism of him during a recent performance.

Dr George claimed that Trump could be living with a different type of brain condition (Image: Getty Images)

She indicated he might have Alzheimer's after noting similarities to her late grandfather, Fred Trump, who battled the disease.

Dr George has now suggested on the David Pakman Show that Trump might actually be living with a different form of brain condition - one that impacts "judgement" and the "inhibition of what one might want to do".

At the start of the interview, host David began by pointing out that the neuroscientist had been researching and writing about what was described as Trump's "personality disorder" for the last 10 years.

He observed that the psychologist seemed "adamant" that, contrary to earlier claims, the US President "does not have Alzheimer's", but rather suffers from a "different type of dementia", specifically frontotemporal dementia.

He went on to claim that Trump typically speaks at a "fourth-grade level" (Image: AFP via Getty Images)

Dr George emphasized that dementia encompasses various different types, with Alzheimer's being just one. He explained: "People have just been saying Donald Trump has dementia, so people equate that with Alzheimer's, and no, he does not have Alzheimer's.

"If he had Alzheimer's, it's like...God, I wish he had Alzheimer's. The world would be a better place if he had Alzheimer's and was diminishing and going away, like in Ronald Reagan's last couple of years."

When David questioned why that would be "better", Dr George responded: "It would be better because he would be diminished and so his, you know, underlying personality disorder, the malignant narcissism, would be getting diminished and he'd becoming less, in terms of what he was able to do, you know, just everything about his personality."

He explained that with frontotemporal dementia, the person with the condition "augments" as it impacts a different part of the brain, while Alzheimer's affects the hippocampus, which relates to memory.

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It's for this reason that people "forget", he continued. Frontotemporal dementia, as the name suggests, impacts the frontal and temporal lobes (the front and sides of the brain).

Dr George noted that these are involved with "judgement" and the "inhibition of what one might want to do". He likened it to somebody having too much to drink and how they become disinhibited and potentially "do something really stupid".

He continued: "That type of disinhibition is exactly what we see with frontotemporal dementia. But in Donald Trump's case, what's being disinhibited is his underlying malignant narcissism. And that's the horrific danger of the whole situation."

When pressed to identify specific behaviors displayed by Trump that informed Dr George's evaluation, he referenced his purported "confabulations", noting that almost his entire speeches "are a symptom".

He went on to claim that Trump typically speaks at a "fourth-grade level", despite being "fairly eloquent" 10 to 15 years ago.

The Brain Injury Association of America states that confabulation refers to the unintentional recall of false memories. Frontotemporal dementia is a range of disorders that arise when nerve cells in the frontal and temporal lobes are lost.

It leads to the lobes shrinking, which results in "problems with thinking and behavior", according to John Hopkins Medicine.

Symptoms can include behavior or personality changes, inappropriate, impulsive, or repetitive behaviors, a lack of empathy, issues with language, impaired judgment, and a loss of energy or drive.

Some may experience physical symptoms, including tremors, issues with swallowing, stiffness and trouble with coordination.

You can learn more about the condition on the John Hopkins website.

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